

OGC 61-1623

61-1436

15 September 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Appearance before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy - 14 September 1961

1. Dr. Seoville, accompanied by [redacted] and John S. Warner, appeared before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy on Thursday, 14 September 1961, beginning at approximately eleven o'clock and running until one o'clock. A transcript was taken by the Committee reporter. Present from the Committee were:

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Representative Chet Holifield, Chairman	
Senator John O. Pastore	Representative Melvin Price
Senator Clinton P. Anderson	Representative Wayne L. Aspinall
Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper	Representative James E. Van Zandt
Senator Henry M. Jackson	Representative Craig Hosmer
Senator George D. Aiken	Representative Albert Thomas
Senator Wallace F. Bennett	Representative William H. Bates
Senator Henry Dworshak	Representative Thomas G. Morris

Members of the staff present were:

James T. Ramey
 John T. Conway
 Edward J. Bauser
 George Murphy

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2. In fact, the principal briefing was done by [redacted] General Rodenhauser and Doyle Northrup - on the Soviet test series. Additionally, Commissioner Seaborg of AEC then briefed on the U. S. plans for nuclear tests. Dr. Scoville supplemented the testimony in several respects. Dr. Scoville discussed the objectives of the current Soviet test series, utilising SNIE 11-11 which he referred to as having been furnished to the Committee this morning. Northrup discussed each of the Soviet shots including the most recent one which had been set off at approximately six o'clock this morning (EDST). He discussed characteristics of the various shots including some indications of where we are lacking data and pointed out that in most cases conclusions were tentative since full analysis had not been completed.

3. Commissioner Seaborg read into the record a letter which he had sent to the Chairman dealing with plans for U. S. tests which had been approved by the President. These will not be repeated since in the letter itself Seaborg pointed out the President wanted the highest degree of security.

4. There was some questioning as to whether or not the U. S. was doing everything possible to detect the Soviet shots and the Chairman inquired if additional funds were needed. Rodenhauser said he had received the finest cooperation from the Pentagon and had been given direct access in his efforts to expand and improve the detection system.

5. As indicated above, most of the information which Dr. Scoville would have given had already been covered; consequently, his testimony was most limited and there were no important or controversial questions raised with the Agency.

S/ John S. Warner
 JOHN S. WARNER
 Legislative Counsel

cc: A/DCI
 IG
 AD/SI

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